

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 086678

61

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APPROVED BY EA - MR. INGERSOLL

EA - MR. SNEIDER

S/S -DWMILLER

EA/K - MR. RANARD

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TO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 086678

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KN, AU

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN NEGOTIATIONS WITH DPRK

REF: USUN NY 1480

1. AUSTRALIAN SECRETARY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, ALAN RENOUF, IN APRIL 24 CONVERSATION WITH ASST. SEC. INGERSOLL AND OTHER DEPARTMENT OFFICERS, REVIEWED STATUS OF AUSTRALIAN NEGOTIATIONS FOR DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH DPRK ALONG LINES OF REFTEL. RENOUF REPORTED THAT NORTH KOREANS HAD TAKEN A "DIM VIEW" WHEN THEY FOUND OUT ABOUT GOA EFFORTS TO LINE UP EASTERN EUROPEAN RECOGNITION OF SOUTH KOREA. THEY HAD COME BACK TO AUSTRALIANS ONLY RECENTLY AT JAKARTA, TO ASSURE THEMSELVES THAT GOA WAS NOT MAKING RECOGNITION OF SOUTH KOREA BY SOME EE GOVERNMENT A PRE-CONDITION TO  
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PAGE 02 STATE 086678

ESTABLISHMENT OF RELATIONS. UPON RECEIPT OF AUSTRALIAN

ASSURANCES THAT NO PRE-CONDITION WAS INVOLVED, NORTH KOREANS INDICATED THAT THEY WERE AGREEABLE TO PROCEEDING WITH DISCUSSIONS. RENOUF STATED, HOWEVER, THAT GOA HAD LET THE DPRK KNOW THAT BECAUSE OF THE ELECTION IN AUSTRALIA, NO "CONTROVERSIAL DECISION" COULD BE EXPECTED TO BE MADE PUBLIC WITHIN THE NEXT FEW WEEKS. NORTH KOREANS APPEARED TO UNDERSTAND THIS SITUATION.

2. DEPUTY ASST. SECRETARY SNEIDER REMARKED THAT SOUTH KOREAN TALKS AT BUCHAREST DURING IPU (AND REPORTED VISIT

TO SOFIA) HAD PERHAPS SHOWN THAT AUSTRALIAN APPROACH TO EE GOVERNMENTS HAD MADE SOME IMPACT. VERY FACT THAT DPRK WAS SENSITIVE ON THE ISSUE AND WANTED ASSURANCES THAT GOA WAS NOT FORMALLY DEMANDING RECIPROCITY OF RECOGNITION ALSO DEMONSTRATED IMPACT OF AUSTRALIAN INITIATIVES.

3. RENOUF STATED THAT GOA WOULD BE ASKING PYONGYANG FOR SPECIFIC GUARANTEES ON THE KIND OF FACILITIES THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO SET UP THERE. GOA DID NOT WANT TO DUPLICATE THE INTOLERABLE CONDITIONS OF ITS PRESENT MISSION TO HANOI. RENOUF STATED THAT HE WAS SURE THAT THESE SPECIFIC GOA REQUIREMENTS WOULD ASSURE THAT NEGOTIATIONS WITH DPRK FOR ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WOULD TAKE CONSIDERABLE TIME.

4. DURING DISCUSSION OF ELECTION PROSPECTS AND ATTITUDES OF A POSSIBLE FUTURE LIBERAL/COUNTRY COALITION PARTY GOVERNMENT IN AUSTRALIA, RENOUF STATED THAT IF THE OPPOSITION SHOULD WIN, IT WOULD BE RECOMMENDATION OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS DEPT. THAT GOA NOT REPEAT NOT GO AHEAD WITH CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS TO ESTABLISH RELATIONS WITH DPRK. KISSINGER

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